

Honduras Fact Sheet

February 2024



Welcome the stranger.
Protect the refugee.

Introduction

Honduras faces multidimensional humanitarian risks in a state of extreme fragility. Recurring hurricanes and extreme weather conditions have exacerbated the damage of the COVID-19 pandemic, resulting in an increase of organized crime, widespread violence, and economic instability. As a consequence, more Hondurans have become internally displaced, or are seeking international protection abroad. The country currently registers an estimated 247,000 internally displaced people.

Honduras is an important transit country for refugees and migrants traveling north towards the U.S.-Mexico border. It is estimated that 701,219 refugees and migrants crossed the country irregularly during 2023.

In recent years, Honduras has received large numbers of returnees from abroad. According to the National Migration Institute, 147,151 individuals returned to Honduras from other countries between 2022 and 2023.

HIAS Programs and Focus

HIAS Honduras has a comprehensive protection approach aimed at ensuring populations with humanitarian needs receive assistance that prioritizes access to rights and services. HIAS develops programs that provide people with mental health and psychosocial (MHPSS) support, gender-based violence (GBV) protection, economic inclusion services, cash transfers, and legal protection.

People in transit

Our program conducts interventions at border crossings and transit points in the southeast to provide vital assistance to refugees and migrants travelling through Honduras. This assistance includes MHPSS support, GBV prevention and response, legal assistance, and protection monitoring. HIAS focuses on providing specialized care to women and girls in transit who are survivors of GBV.

Returnees

HIAS Honduras focuses on reintegrating at-risk Hondurans who have returned from other countries and that require assistance. Our work with returnees focuses on economic empowerment, skills training, strengthening connections with communities of origin, and providing sustainable income generation opportunities. Our initiatives encompass accelerated business incubation through the Entrepreneurship School with a Gender Lens, vocational training, and seed capital support. We also work to enhance the psychosocial well-being of returnees, particularly of young people who continue to seek further migratory opportunities abroad.



Patrick Culver, emergency operations manager at HIAS, conducts a swift needs assessment in Honduras to strategize a response to emergency flooding. (Patrick Culver/HIAS)



Population in Transit

Our work with refugees and migrants in transit focuses on providing specialized care to at-risk individuals.



Supporting Returnees

We work to reintegrate returnees by providing skills training programs, entrepreneurship support, and counselling.

HIAS in Latin America and the Caribbean

HIAS advocates for the protection of refugees, asylum seekers, other displaced populations, and local host communities throughout Latin America and the Caribbean. As part of a comprehensive regional response to meet the urgent needs of these populations, HIAS co-leads and participates in several coordination platforms and partnerships with a focus on protection, socioeconomic integration, MHPSS, food security, GBV, and cash and voucher assistance.

HIAS currently has programs in 11 countries in LAC (Aruba, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Guyana, Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Peru, and Venezuela) and partners with a wide range of government agencies, UN entities (UNHCR, WFP, UNICEF, UN Women, UNFPA, UNVFVT), the private sector (Airbnb, TATA Consultancy Services, and Manpower), and other NGOs and consortia, including Save the Children, Norwegian Refugee Council, Danish Refugee Council and World Vision.

Contact

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